

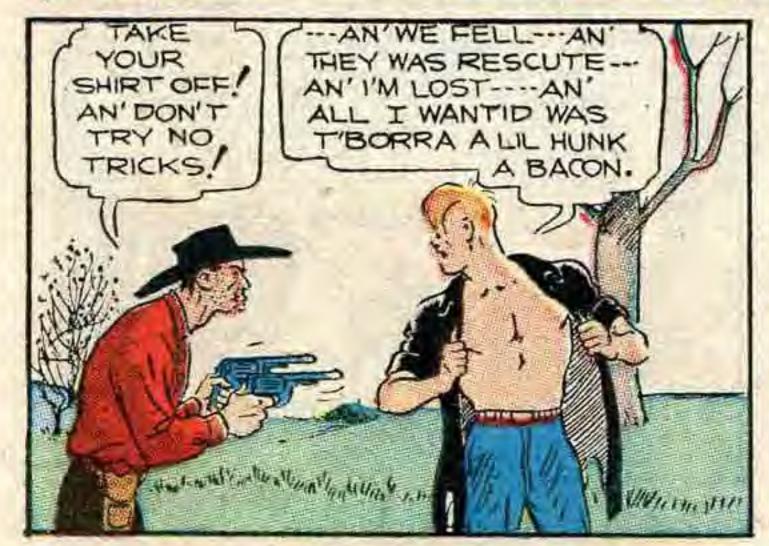
# On sale at all newsstands!

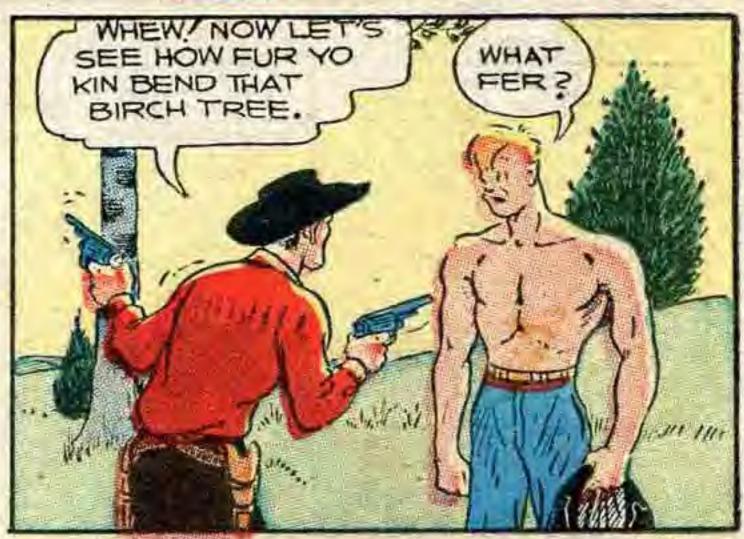
## VINCENT SULLIVAN, Editor

BIG SHOT COMICS. published monthly by COLUMBIA COMIC CORPORATION, 369 Lexington Ave., New York, N. Y. Entered as Second Class Matter August 23, 1940, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U.S.A. and its possessions, \$1.00. Canada and foreign countries \$2.00. For advertising rates address: William J. Delaney, Inc., 9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y. Except those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be interred. The Publisher accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material. Entire contents copyrighted 1942 by COLUMBIA COMIC CORPORATION. Printed in U.S.A.



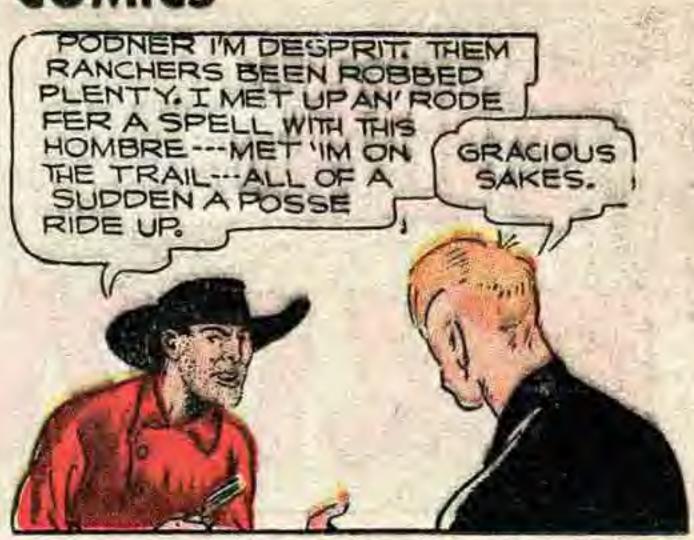






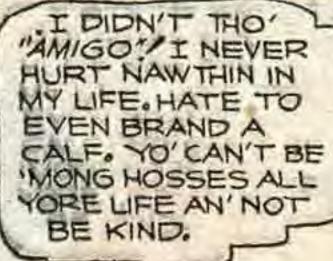












BY GOLLY.
THAT'S RIGHT.
I FERGOT
YOUSE DINT
KILL ME.



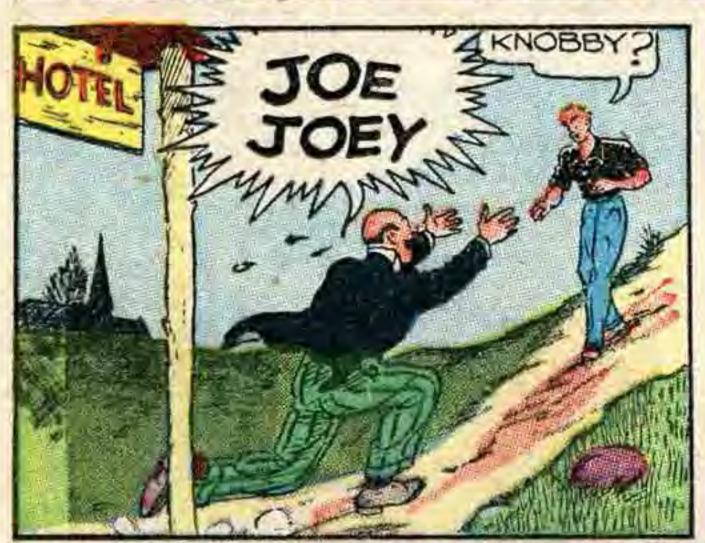


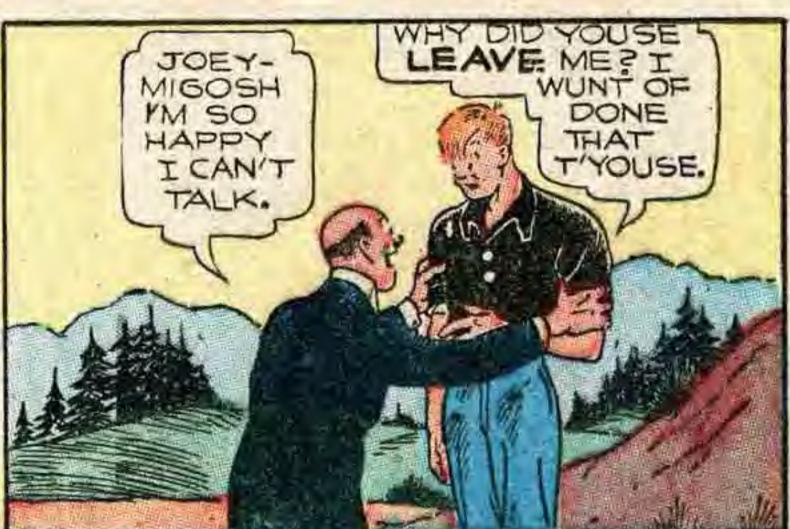


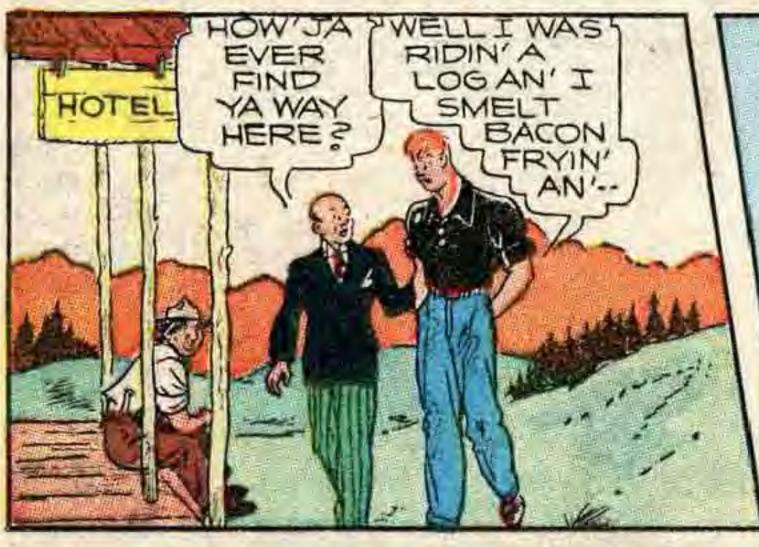














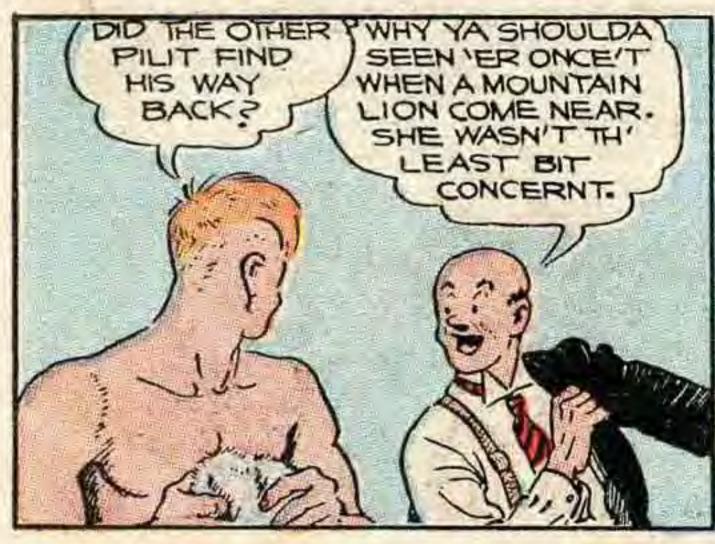


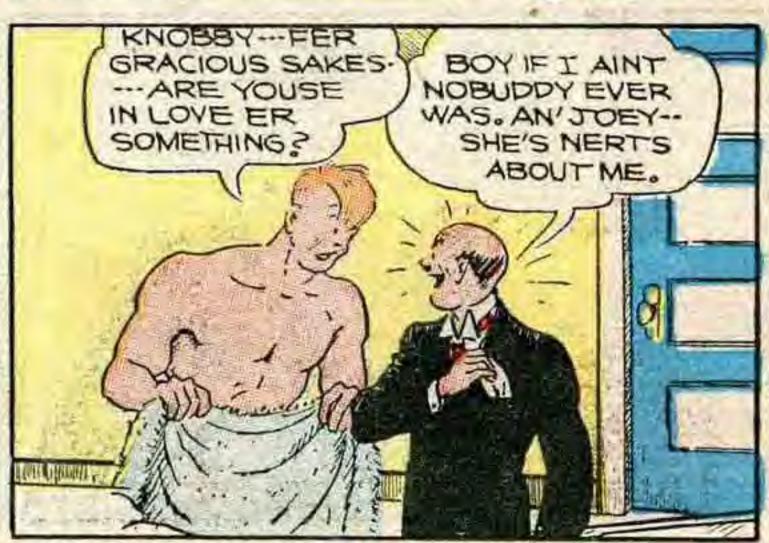




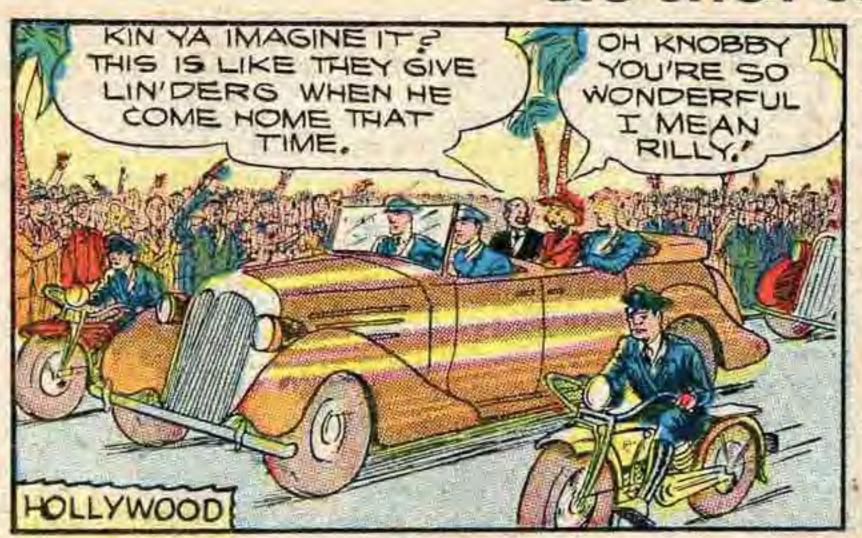






























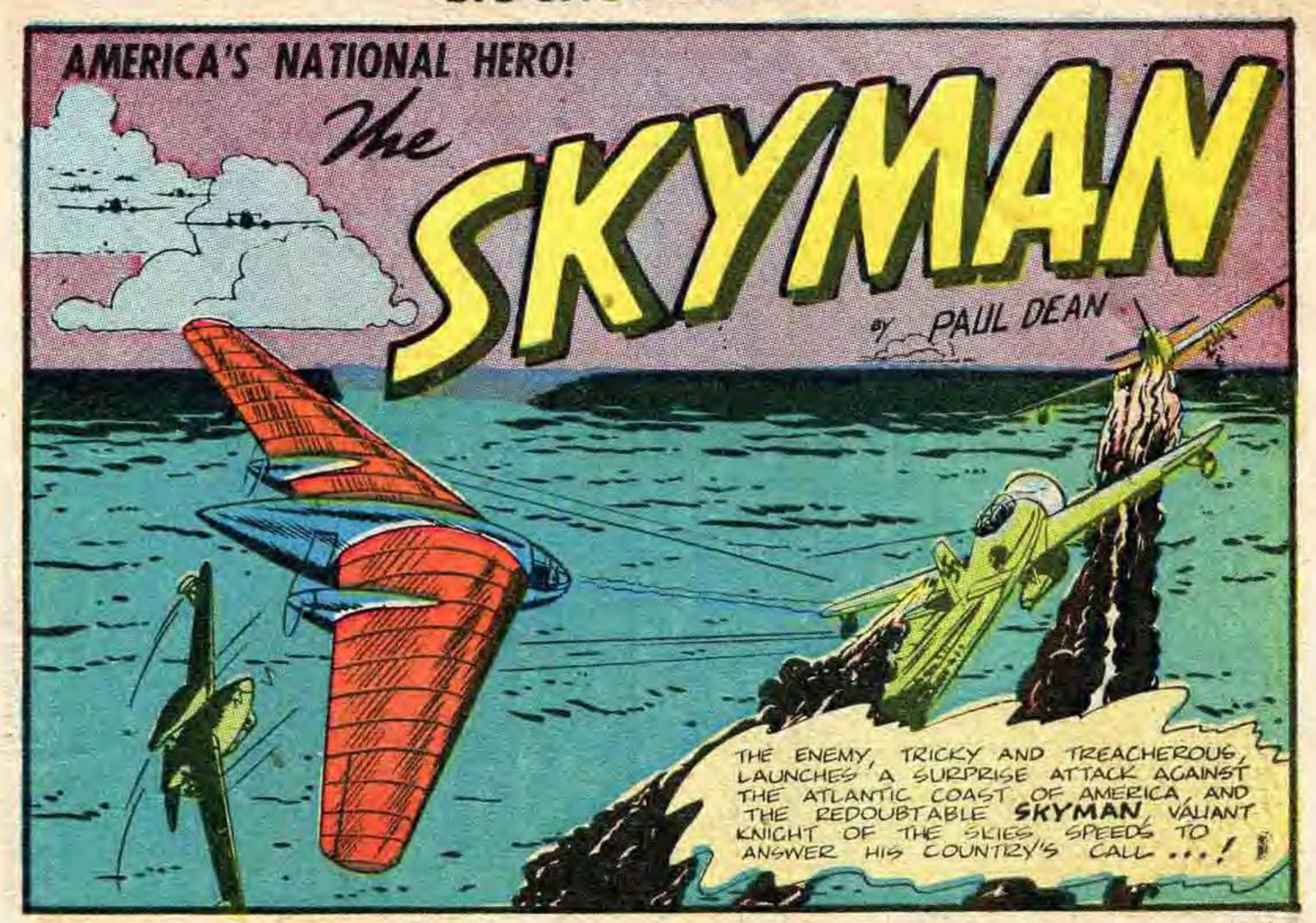




































YOU SABOTEURS WERE ALL SET TO

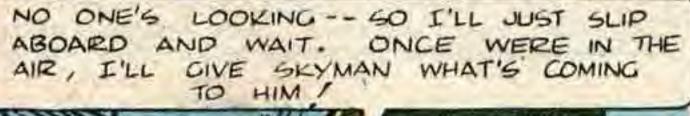
START BIG FOREST FIRES, HEY? WELL









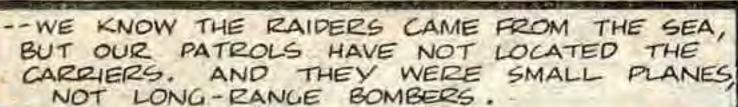














THEY USED FLYING AIRPLANE CARRIERS ONCE, I DON'T THINK THEY'LL TIZY THAT AGAIN. THEY MUST HAVE A NEW WRINKLE. SO I'LL FLY TO NEW YORK FOR A GADGET I'VE MADE --



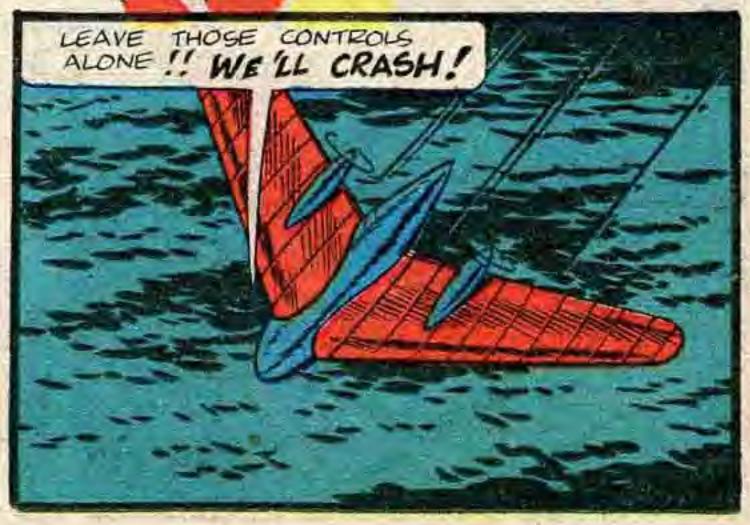














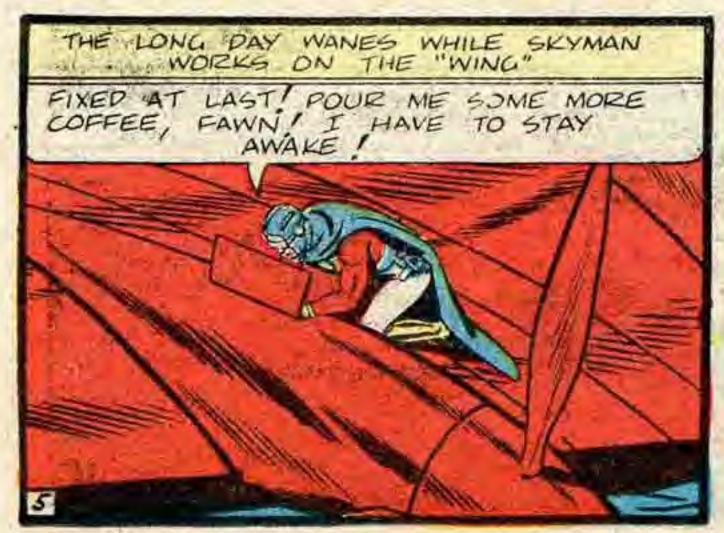






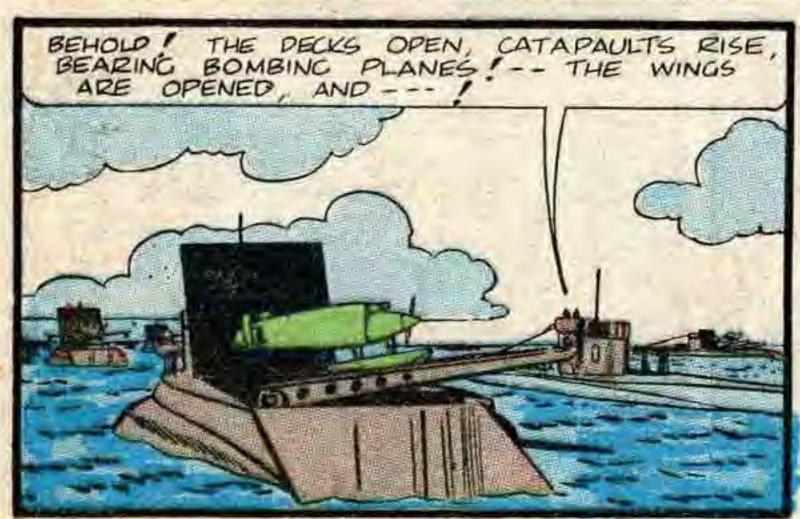


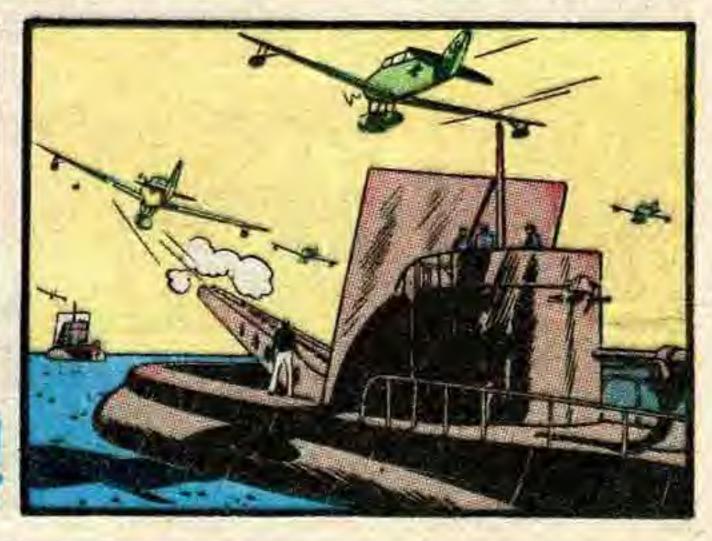








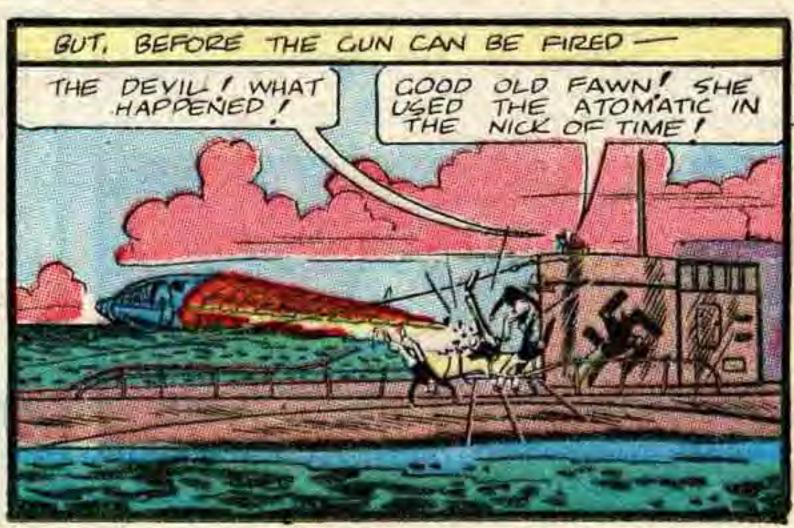
















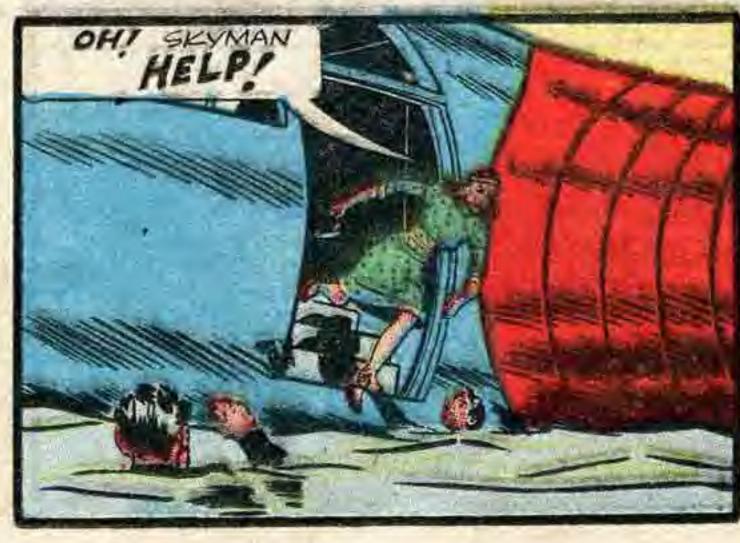




















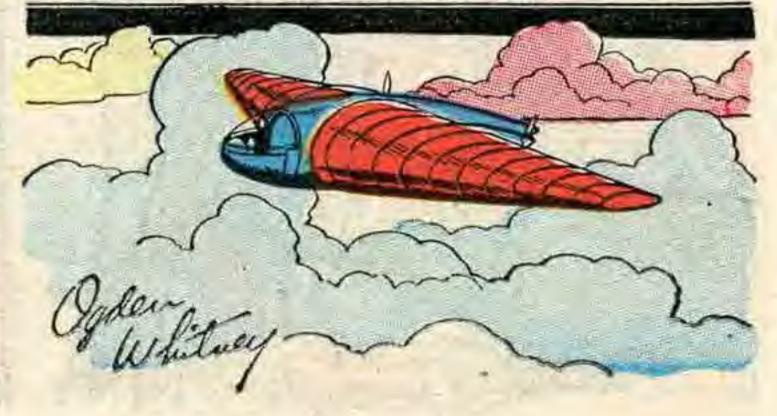
WE GOT ALL BUT A FEW ! SKYMAN'LL GET THEM WHEN THEY RETURN TO THEIR SUBS -- AND OUR BOMBERS ARE ON THE WAY TO GET THE SUBS!



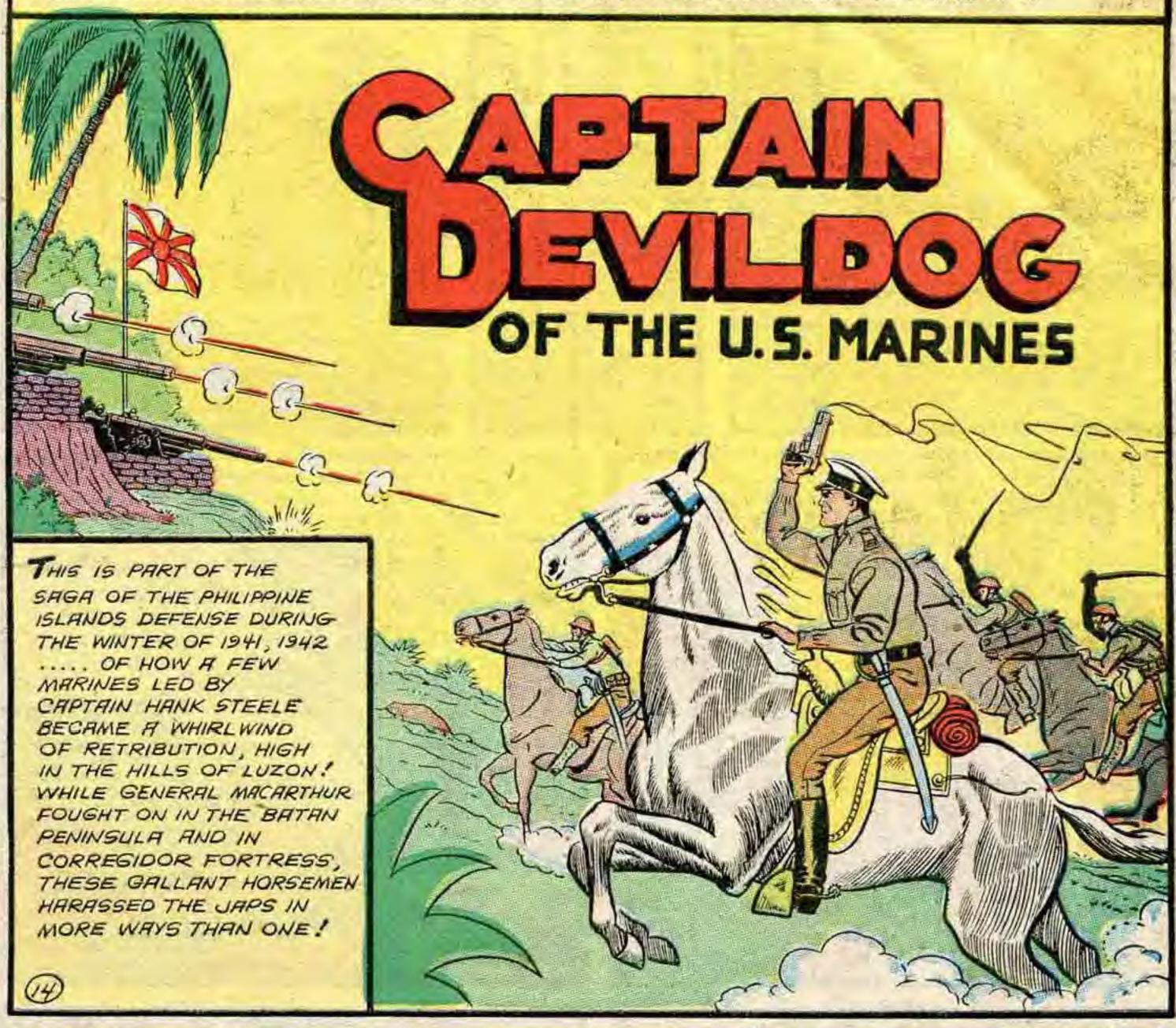




AND SO, NOT LONG AFTERWARD, IN THE MOTIONLESS "WING", THE WEARY SKYMAN SLEEPS AT LAST, 10,000 FEET ABOVE THE TURNING EARTH!

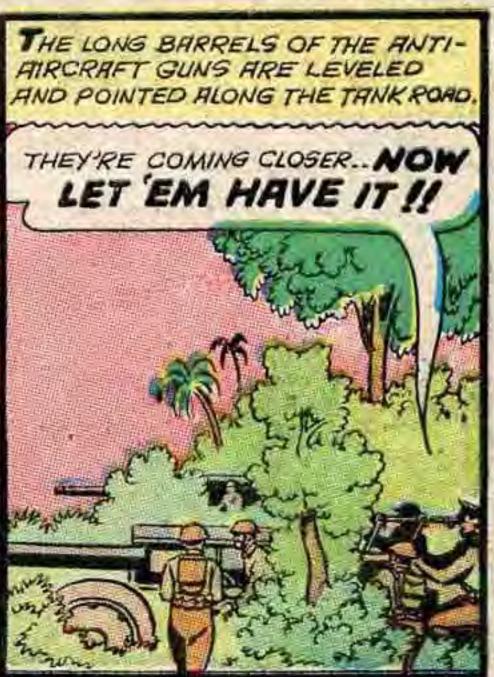


DEAR READER: DUE TO THE THRILLING STAND OF THE AMERICAN ARMED FORCES ALL OVER THE GLOBE, AND IN RESPONSE TO THE NUMEROUS REQUESTS RECEIVED BY YOUR EDITOR, WE HAVE EXTENDED AND ENLARGED THIS WARTIME FEATURE...... WE HOPE YOU LIKE IT !!











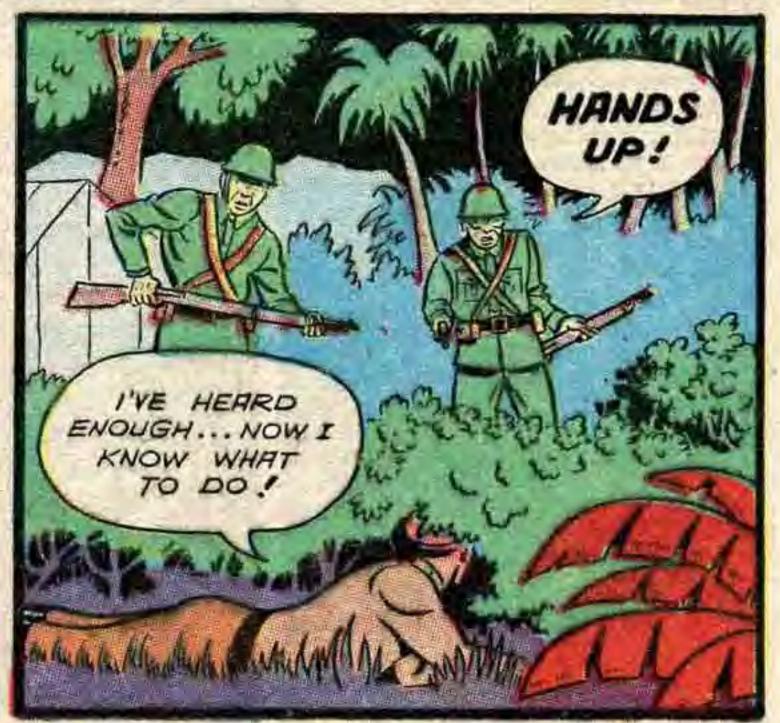


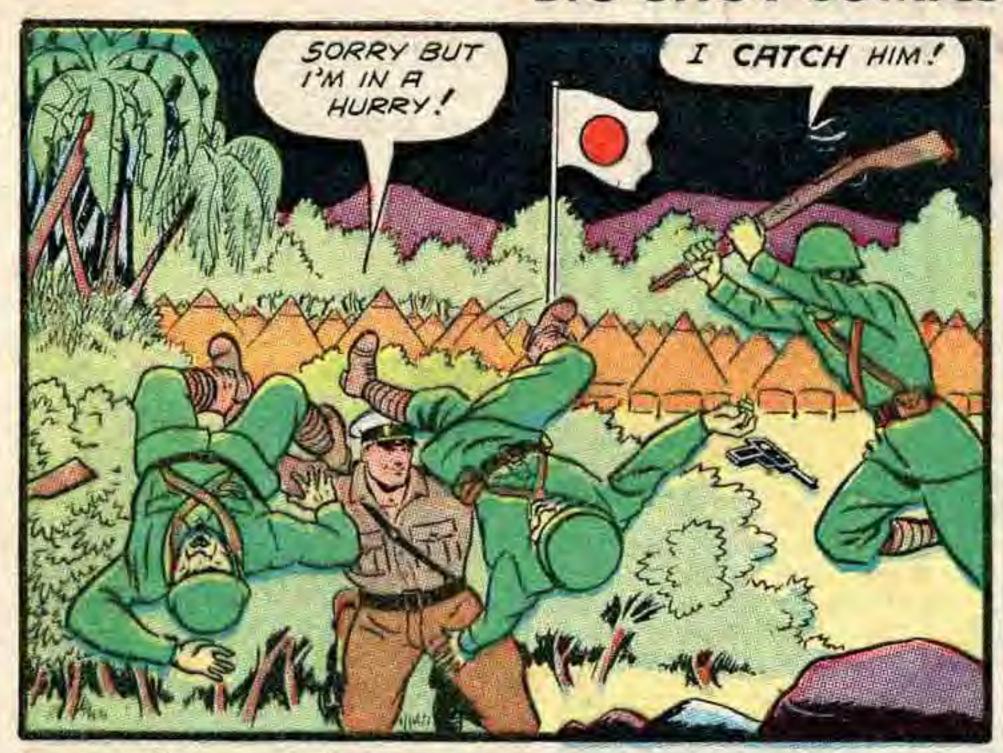




























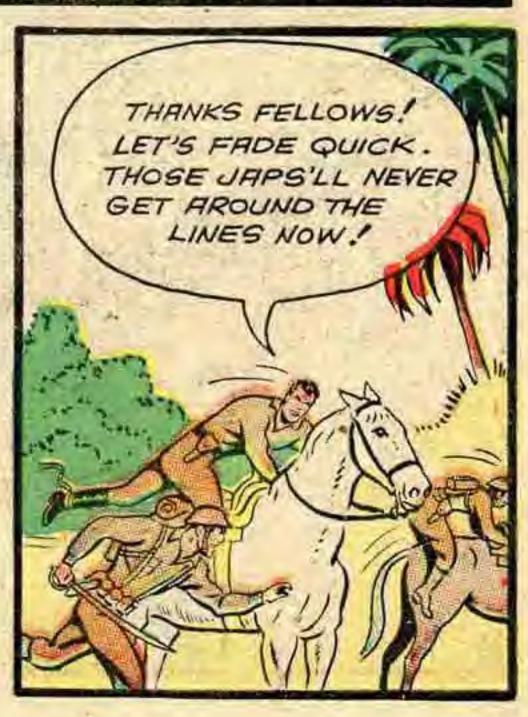






















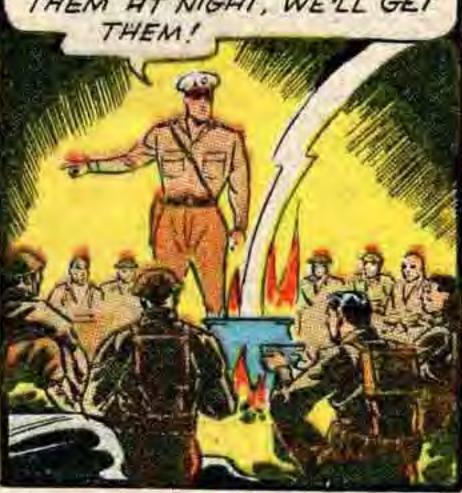




MANY JAPANESE PLANES
HAVE BEEN BROUGHT ONTO
ISLAND ..... THEY WILL
OUTNUMBER FEW AMERICAN
ONES... THEY CAN BOMB
ARTILLERY!



THOSE PLANES MUST BE
DESTROYED! THEY'RE ALL
BASED OUTSIDE MANILA...
IF WE CIRCLE THROUGH THE
HILLS AND COME DOWN ON
THEM AT NIGHT, WE'LL GET

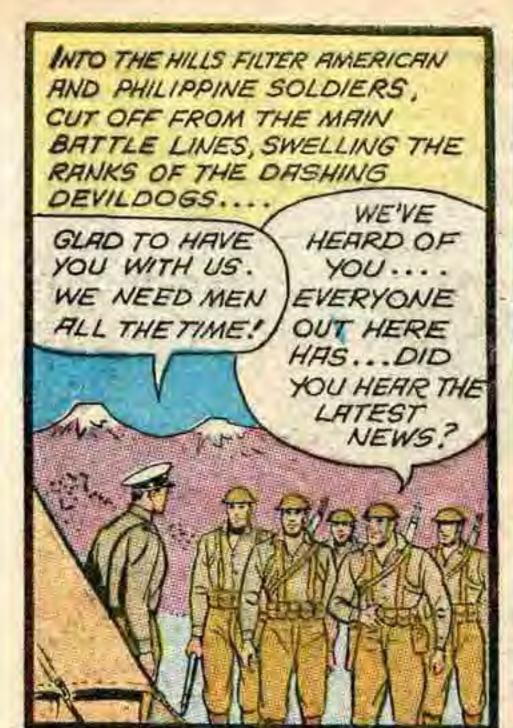




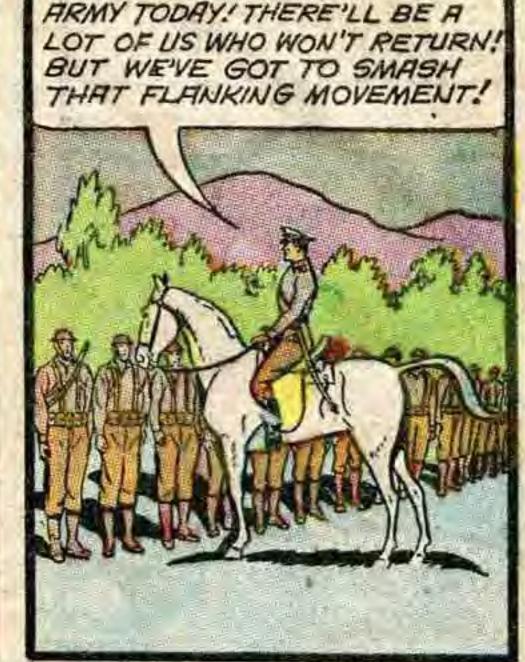












WE'RE ATTACKING AN ENTIRE



OUR MEN STRIKE HERE, AT MACARTHUR'S LEFT. THEY MUST PASS THROUGH JUNGLE AND THEY WILL APPEAR ON THE HILLS LIKE A SWORD!

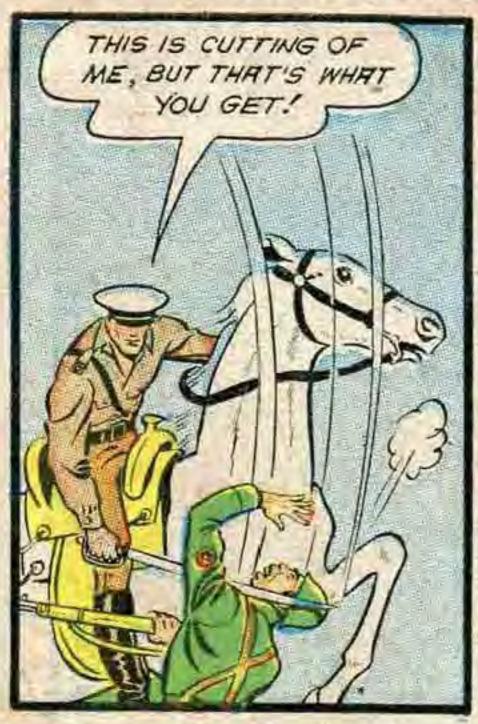




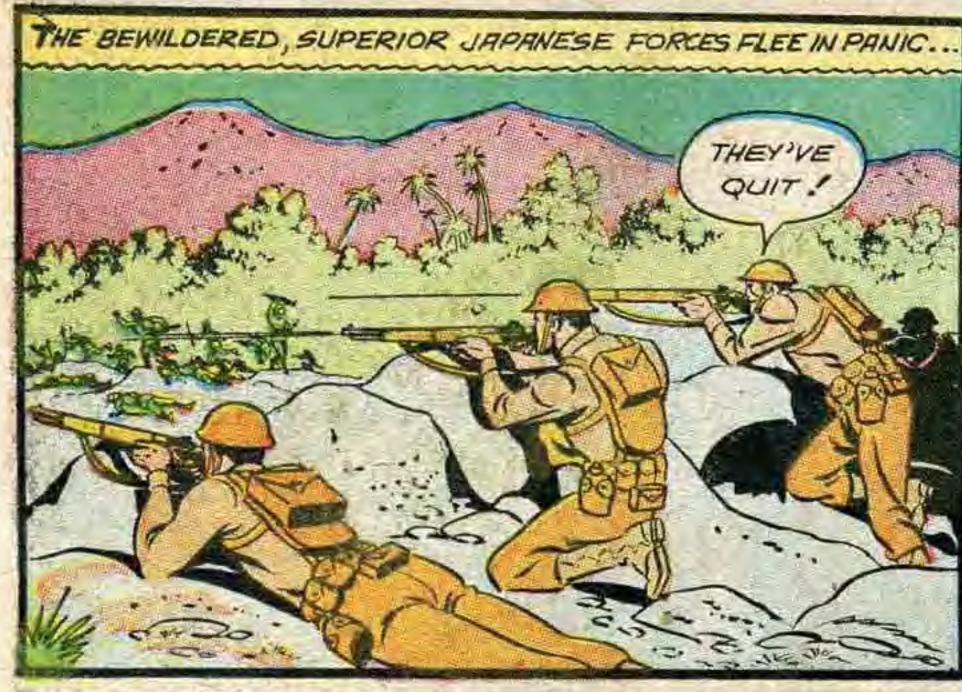












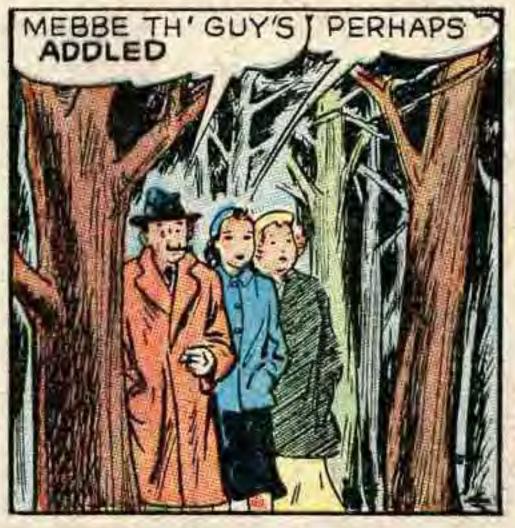




SECURE IN THEIR HILLS,
THE DEVILDOGS HARASS
AND ANNOY THE
INVADING JAPANESE
ARMY...WE LEAVE
THEM NOW, BUT WE
WILL HAVE MORE TO
TELL OF THEIR GALLANT
FIGHT AGAINST
OVERWHELMING ODDS
----IN THE FOLLOWING
ISSUES OF...













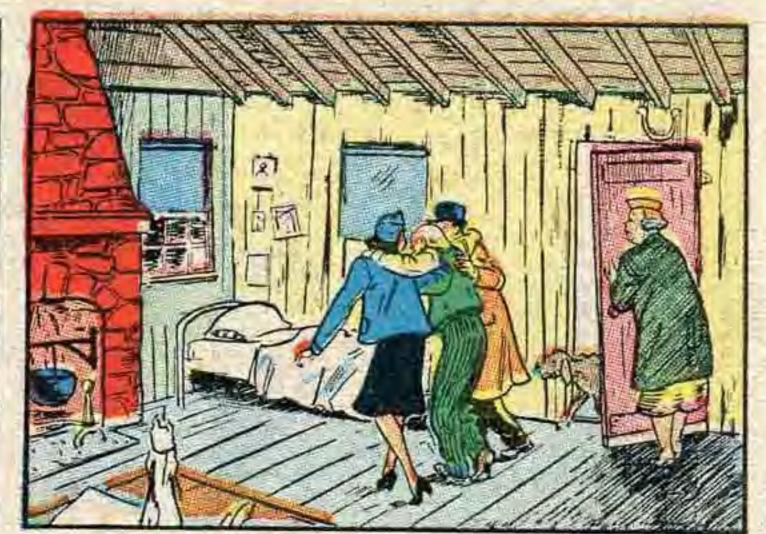








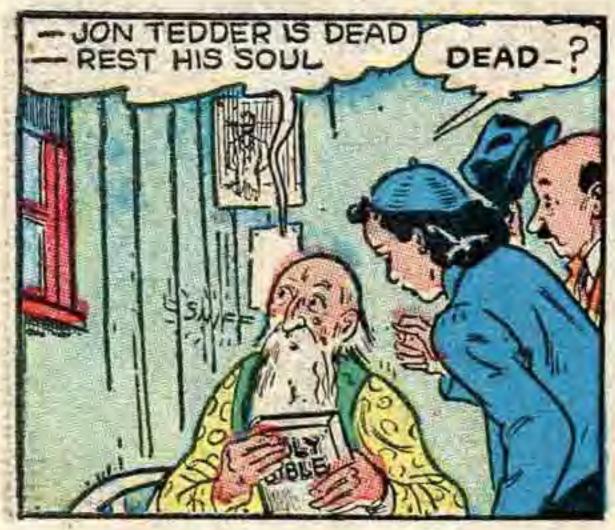












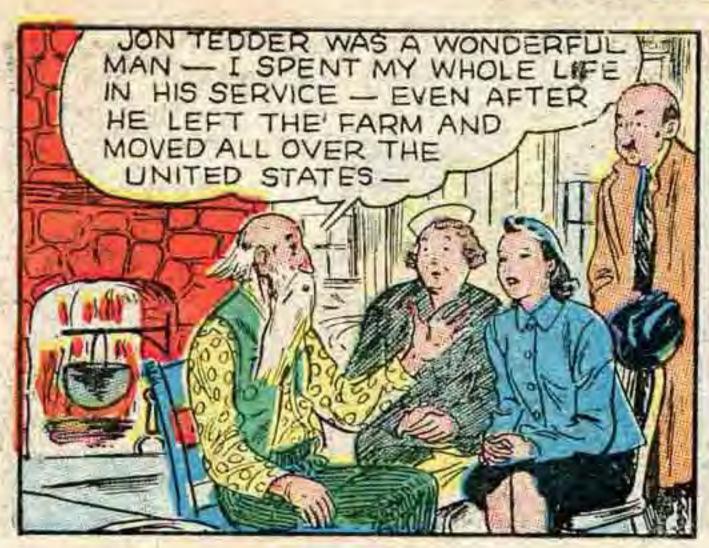


BUT WHO'S

BEEN PAYING

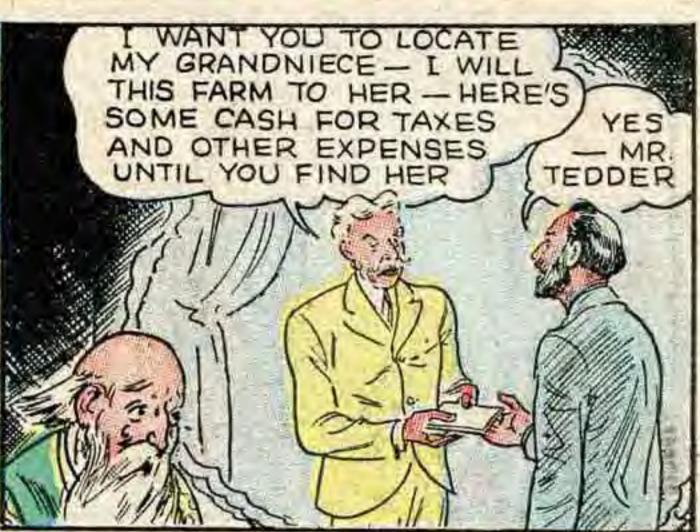
THE TAXES

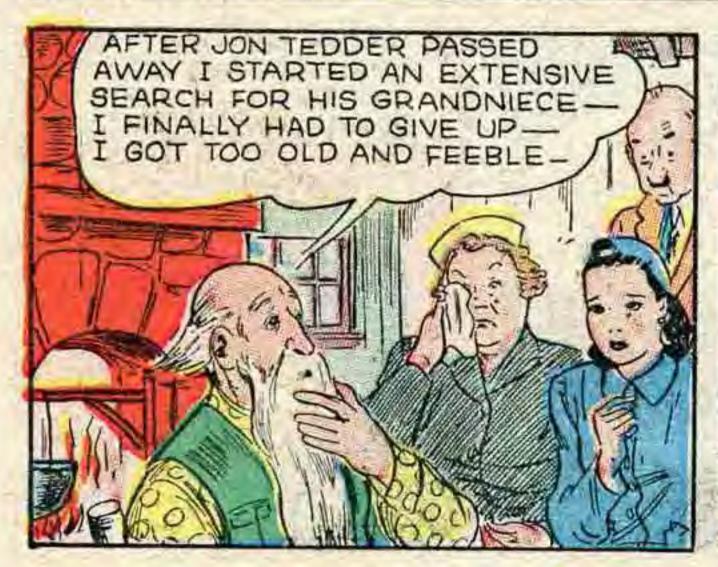




























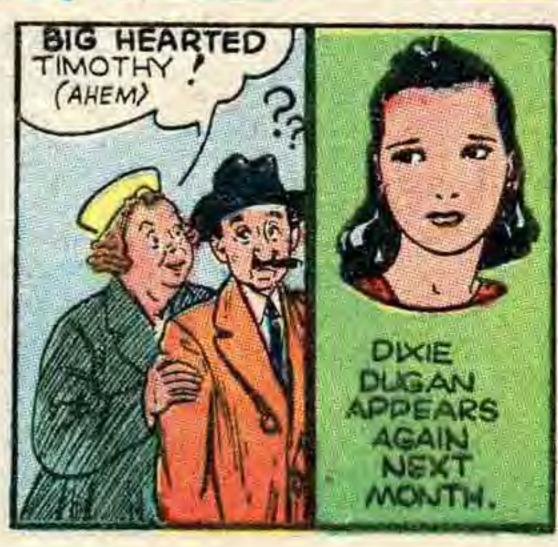
SEARCHING ALL OVER THE U.S.A. FOR THE OWNER OF THE FARM, DIXIE'S BEARCH ENDED BACK ON THE FARM AND MA IS THE OWNER.











THE Continental Express raced I through the tunnel and on eastward

I folded the newspaper and put it aside; and of a sudden the train came to a grinding halt. Through the window I could see the dim gleams of half a dozen oil lamps and back from a wooden platform stood a small shed. A group of armed soldiers, their rifles shining in the weak light, approached the train.

"This appears interesting," I re. marked, turning to Phil; and then I paused in amazement. There he sat with the black wallet unfolded on his lap and striking a match, he applied it to the documents he held in his hand.

Very carefully and methodically he allowed the papers to burn to a black crisp, dropping the charred remains in a cigarette tray on the table by his side. He ground the ashes to a fine pulp with his fingers and opening the car window, blew them into the chilled night air.

"Good Heavens, man," I cried, "you destroyed the papers?

Why?"

Burton smiled. "For the simple reason that if those papers had been found on us we wouldn't live long enough to see the light of this day! But don't be over alarmed, old boy, I did keep one of the letters to identify us should we ever reach the embassy; it's disguised as a press report and very cleverly done at that, so I don't believe we'll have any trouble on that account."

"Our mission seems meaningless and without any point with the other papers destroyed," I exclaimed with a trace of annoyance

creeping into my voice.

"Not at all!" my friend laughed. "You see, I memorized all the vital details of the documents and you must admit that I do possess a most remarkable brain for things of that sort!"

The tramping of feet sounded in the corridor outside our door and a moment later there came a terse knocking.

"Come in!" Phil shouted quite

cheerfully.

HE door opened and four well-armed soldiers crowded into our small compartment and stood stiffly at attention. There was BIG SHOT COMICS



a slight pause, undoubtedly done for a dramatic purpose, and then in stepped a grim and pompous looking captain.

"I regret delaying the train, gentlemen," he said in a dry tone, "but the action is necessitated for an obvious reason. Do I make myself clear, Herr Burton?"

"I'm afraid you don't,' Phil lied, "and I'm surprised and somewhat flattered that you should know my name!"

"The name of every person suspected of assisting our neighboring countries or plotting against this government, is well known by the officials!" the captain replied, his eyes gleaming wickedly.

"A direct accusation!" smiled Burton in my direction. I was beginning to feel warm and uncomfortable.

"You will hand over the documents to me, Herr Burton!" the army officer commanded.

Phil extended his opened hands. "But I haven't got any documents,"

he said innocently.

The captain sneered: "You are making things most difficult for yourself, I assure you. In the name of the government I place you both under arrest! You will pack your belongings and come with me!'

He clicked his heels and swinging around, disappeared through the doorway.

HE soldiers stood stiffly at at-L tention and Phil Burton and I picked up our packed suitcases and marched between them down the passageway of the train to the entrance. On the far side of the small platform I saw the haughty captain of this little group of soldiers, waiting for us by the opened door of a dark sedan,

The train moved slowly off into the night and in the flickering light from the oil lamps I caught the puzzled and slightly worried looking faces of two conductors peering at us from the rear platform of the last car.

"Herr Captain wishes us to ride with him, I believe," said Phil, nodding toward the waiting auto.

We walked across the boards to the stern and pompous captain. "Come, we are wasting time!" he snapped and motioned us to enter the sedan.

We sat in the back with the officer and two of the soldiers, with drawn and wicked looking automatics, squatted directly in front of us on small chairs.

"Where is this charming excursion bound for?" asked Phil, light. ing a cigarette.

The lines on the captain's face grew hard. "I must remind you, Herr Burton, that you are under arrest! Must you be told more?"

The powerful sedan raced through the night and in the brightness of the headlights I determined that we were making our way into the country, for both sides of the road were flanked with the dark forms of rustling trees.

We continued along in silence for perhaps an hour or more and then the car slowed to a stop by a gate-keeper's house. Several uniformed men came out of the building and looked the car over. Then one of them hurried over to the huge iron gate and drew it open. The driver of our machine swung the car beneath the archway and with a crunching sound of the tires, we rolled up a long, winding gravel road to a magnificent build. ing half hidden by stately pines. At one time it had evidently been used as a hunting lodge.

The sedan came to a halt and the captain got out. "Follow me!" he ordered. He lead the way up the steps and into the house, Burton and I marching behind him and back of us came our silent

armed escorts.

The huge main room within was brightly lighted and comfortably furnished; trophies and decorations covered the walls and a large, log fire crackled merrily in an open fireplace, for the night air was raw and chilly. The room was empty save for a group of three officers who lounged near the fireplace, smoking and chatting.

Our grim-faced captain marched across the floor and opened a door to a hallway that went straight to the rear of the building. Down the corridor we followed our stern guide and halted before a heavy oaken door. The captain knocked and a gruff voice within bade us

enter.

WINGING the door back, we stepped into the room and stood before the General. The cap. tain spoke to his superior officer rapidly in his native tongue and the General, his head bowed on his expansive chest, nodded and listened intently. Then he waved his hand, a dismissive gesture, and the captain turned and left us, closing the door behind him.

"Sit down, Herr Burton," the General said, motioning to a chair. "You know, of course, the reason for your being brought here and I must say that the whole business places me in a very embarrassing position. I realize that your reputation as a foreign correspondent is unexcelled; I, myself, have read your column time and again, though on many occasions the

# **BIG SHOT COMICS**

tenor of your articles has been completely opposed to the policies

of this country."

Burton smiled. "Many thanks for the kind remarks, General. I can fully appreciate the quandary you find yourself in. You suspect, or you have been informed, that I am carrying certain valuable documents to an unfriendly nation across the frontier. The thing that puzzles you right now is just what course you should adopt: Whether you make an out-and-out search of either my friend or me and find the papers, if we should really have them at all, or fail to discover them and then suffer the biting criticism of the press throughout the world. Such press reports would be most harmful to the good-will policy you're endeavoring to establish with the other countries of the world. Are my deductions correct, General?"

"Amazingly so, Herr Burton!" the General replied. "Your reportorial experience stands you in good need but can you find a solution to my delicate-er-prob-

lem?"

"I believe I can . . . and very gracefully, too!" said my friend. "Many times in my column I've mentioned the fact that you're a skillful and daring gambler of professional quality. Why not let the cards settle this annoying prob. lem?"

"Cards?" the General repeated thoughtfully. And then he slapped the table-top. "Why not? What will the terms be?"

"Simply this," said Burton, and I wondered just what he had up his sleeve, "we will deal two hands, poker fashion, and should I lose I promise to tell you all I know of these papers, even submit to a search without printing a word of it in my column; however, should I happen to win then I demand that we be allowed to continue our journey immediately without further detainment. Do these terms sound reasonable?"

"An excellent suggestion, Herr Burton!" the General cried. "Let

us start at once!"

He opened a drawer of his desk and produced a pack of cards. The shuffle was swiftly and expertly accomplished; Burton cut the pack and the General dealt five cards for both Burton and himself.

The General held his cards close to his body and his face wrinkled in a massive smile as his small, blue eyes examined them.

"I am the host and therefore I will show my cards first," he said and threw the glistening cardboards face upward on the desk. Of the five cards showing, three were Kings!

"You'll need three Aces or four of a kind to defeat me, Herr Burton!" the General laughed.

"Yes . . . three Aces!" Burton said slowly and he gazed straight across the desk into the General's eyes. The General stopped laughing and his eyes, widening in wonder, seemed to be suddenly clouded by a film.

"I'm afraid you lose, General," Phil whispered and his voice had an intent and almost piercing quality. "You see, I have three

Aces!"

He placed his cards on the desk and when I saw them I held my breath . . . for all he had was an assortment of cards, not even a pair!

The General looked at the cards for a moment. "You are right, Herr Burton, I lose and you are free to depart unmolested."

The General pressed a buzzer and gave orders to the captain who had been waiting outside. We were escorted back to the car and once again we traveled back over the dark, forest road to the small railroad station. Three hours later as the light of the new day broke over the eastern horizon, we raced across the border and into the country of our original destination.

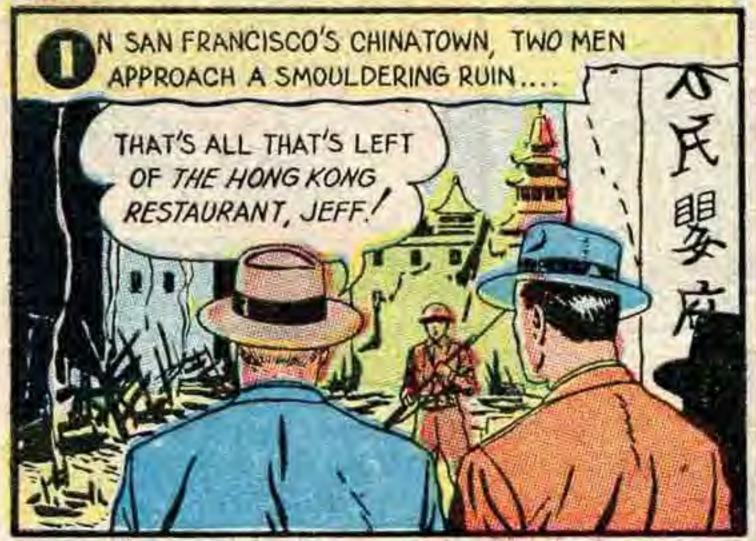
In the train compartment I spoke to Phil in amazement. "But how did you manage it, old man? Unless my eyes are going back on me. you had absolutely nothing in your hand of cards to beat the General; but still he admitted defeat and allowed us to leave!"

Phil smiled. "There's nothing wrong with your eye sight . . . I didn't have anything to beat the old boy but still he thought I did! You see, I simply hypnotized him!"

Needless to state we accomplished our mission and reached the Embassy the following morning.

THE END

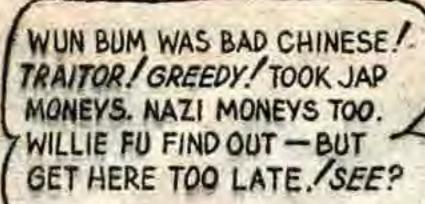


























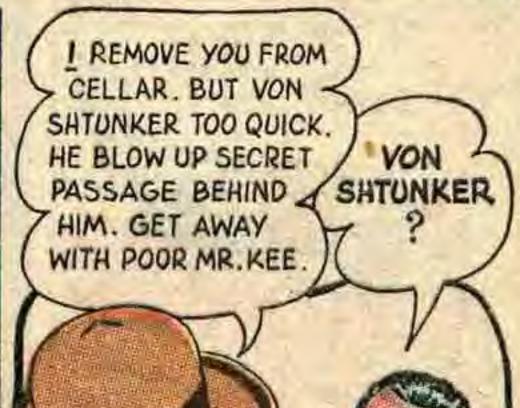












YES. BAD NAZZI AGENT. HE
HOLDS MR. KEE SO THAT
MR. KEE'S YOUNGER BROTHER DO
WHAT VON SHTUNKER
WANT I THINK. KEE
BROTHERS ARE IMPORTERS.



VON SHTUNKER KNOWS I'M
A G-MAN, AND HE KNOWS
YOU'RE AFTER HIM — OR
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN
SHOT AT. HMMM! NOT SO GOOD!



ONCE AGAIN BECOMES -THE CLOAK!



GOOD! NO OUTCRY. NOW I CAN SLIP IN THE SIDE DOOR OF THE KEE BROTHERS' WAREHOUSE AND SEE IF ANYTHING'S HIDDEN THERE!



















STARDT BLOWING UP, DER STUBID AMERICANS VILL GO SEARCHING ALL OFER DER BACIFIC LOOKING FOR U-BOADS....

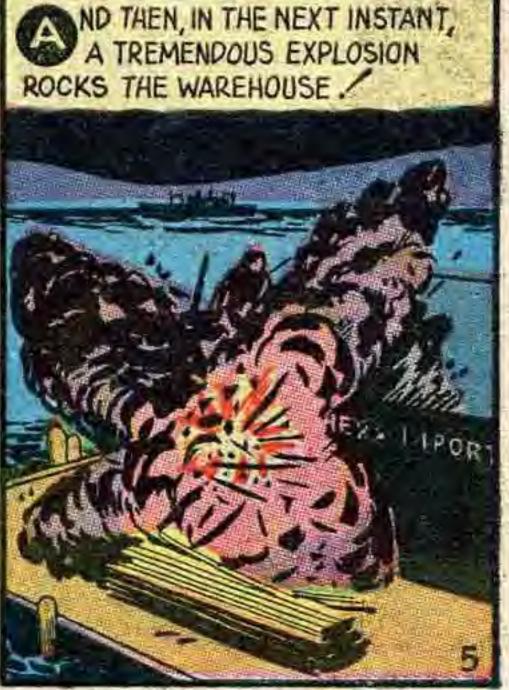






I DON'T KNOW WHAT VON
STUNKER IS UP TO, BUT
HE'LL NEED ELECTRIC POWER
FOR IT, I'LL BET.

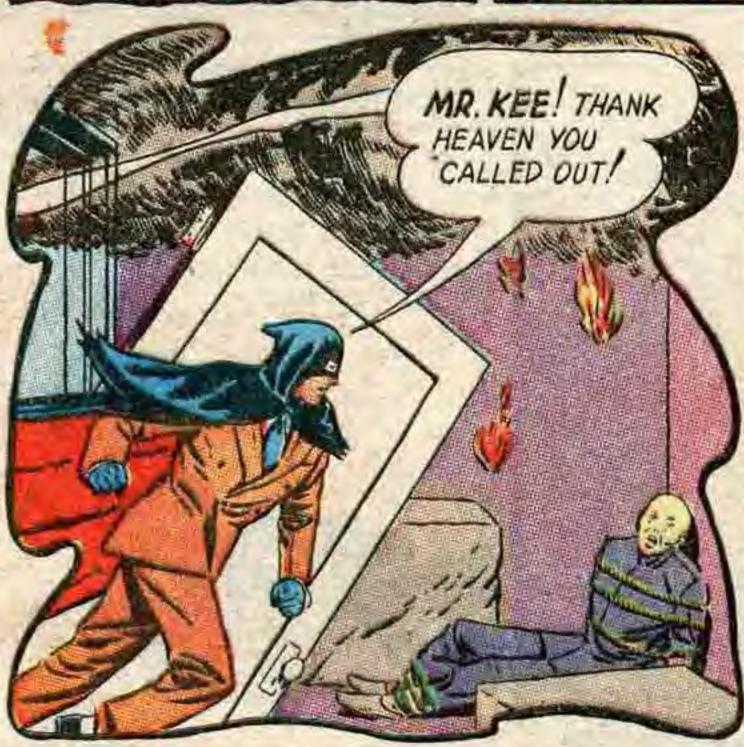














































































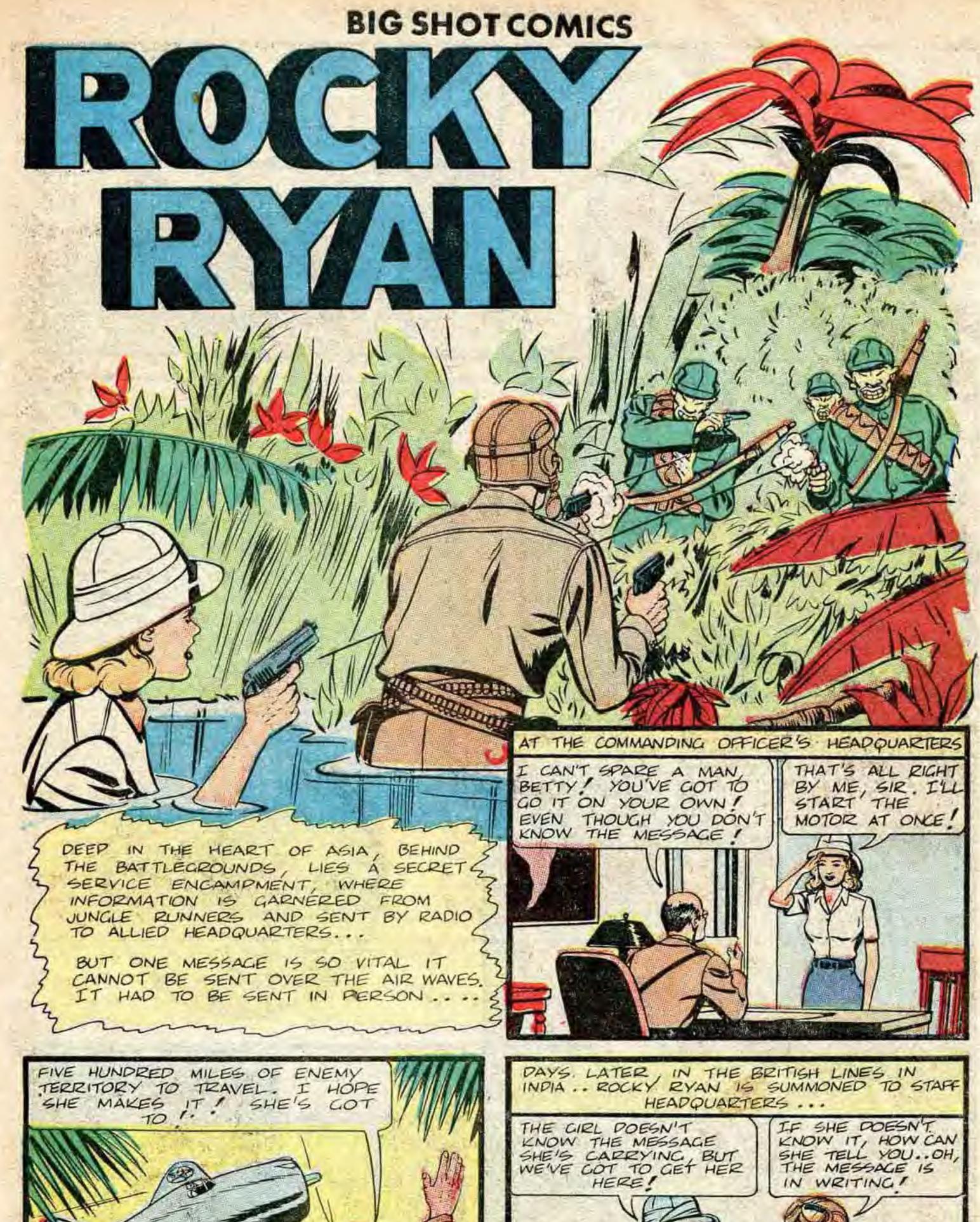










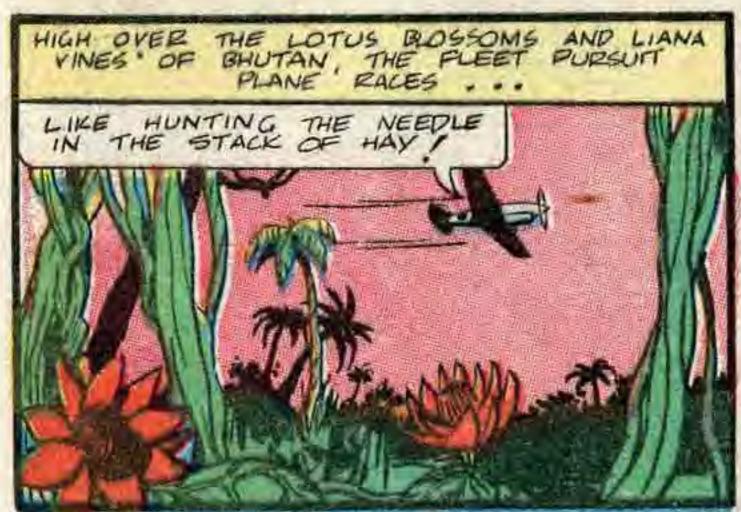




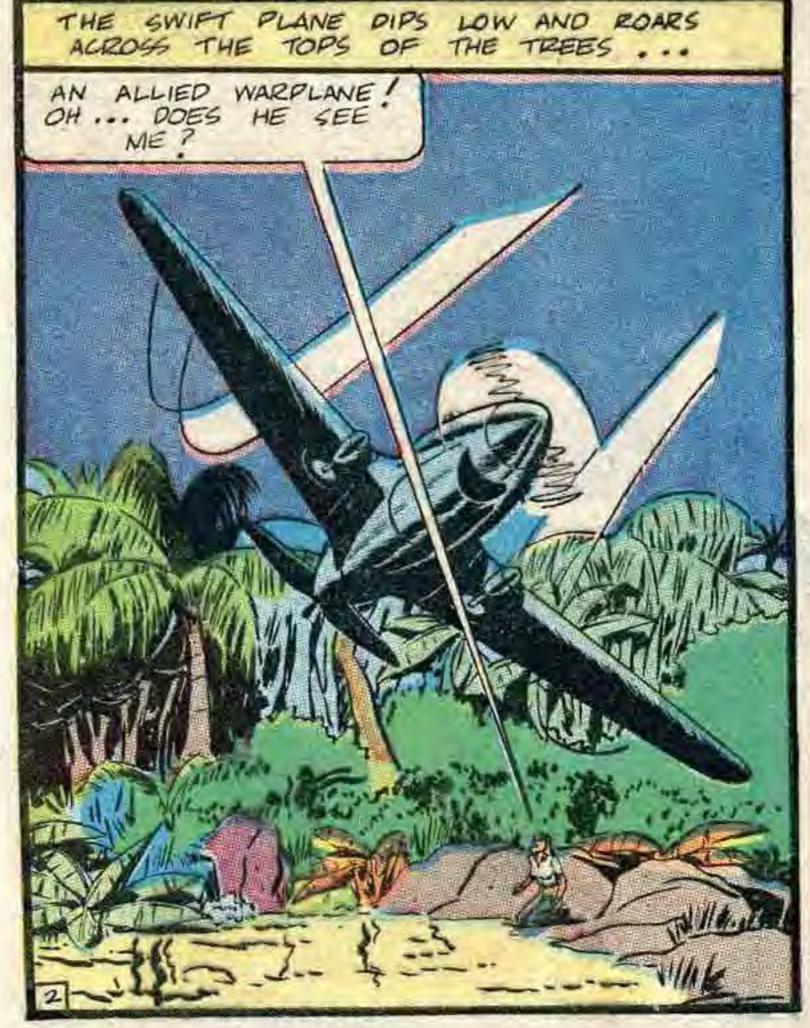








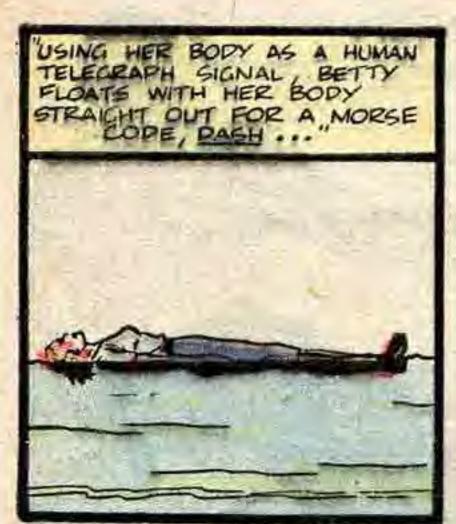




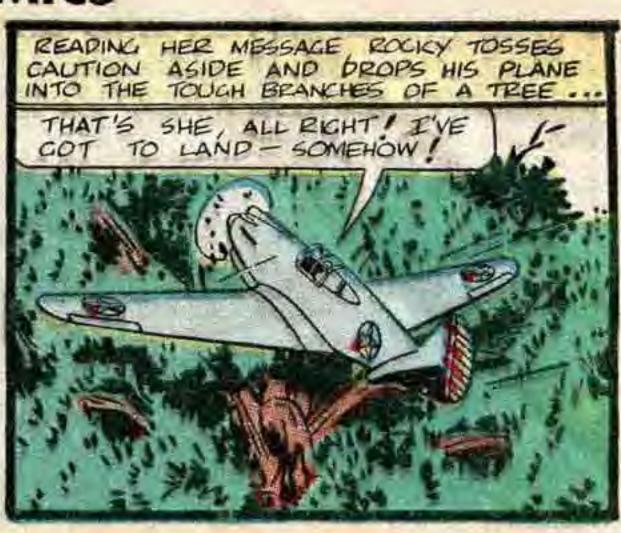














































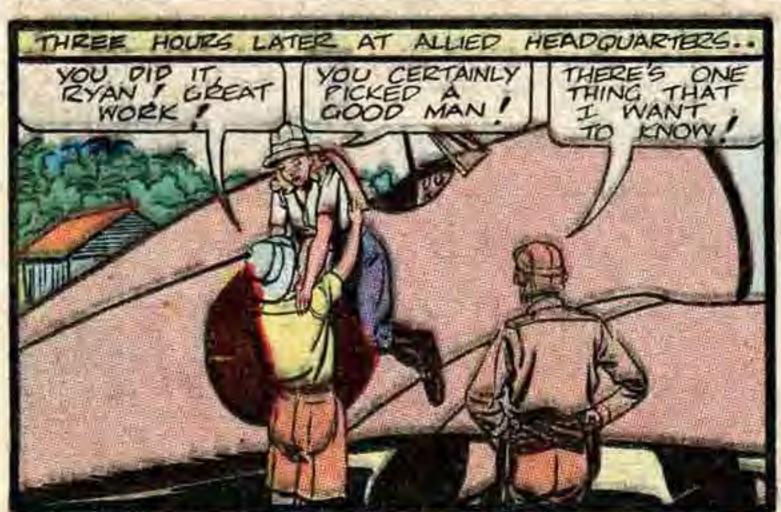




















NOBODY HAS TO HYPNOTISE GOOD AMERICANS INTO BUYING WAR BONDS AND STAMPS P

AND INVEST THEM IN THE BEST IN

AND INVEST THEM IN THE BEST INVESTMENT IN THIS WAR-TORN WORLD - YOUR COUNTRY AND MINE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

YOUR STAMPS AND BONDS HELP BUILD AIRPLANES AND WARSHIPS HELP LICK THE ENEMY BY BUYING STAMPS

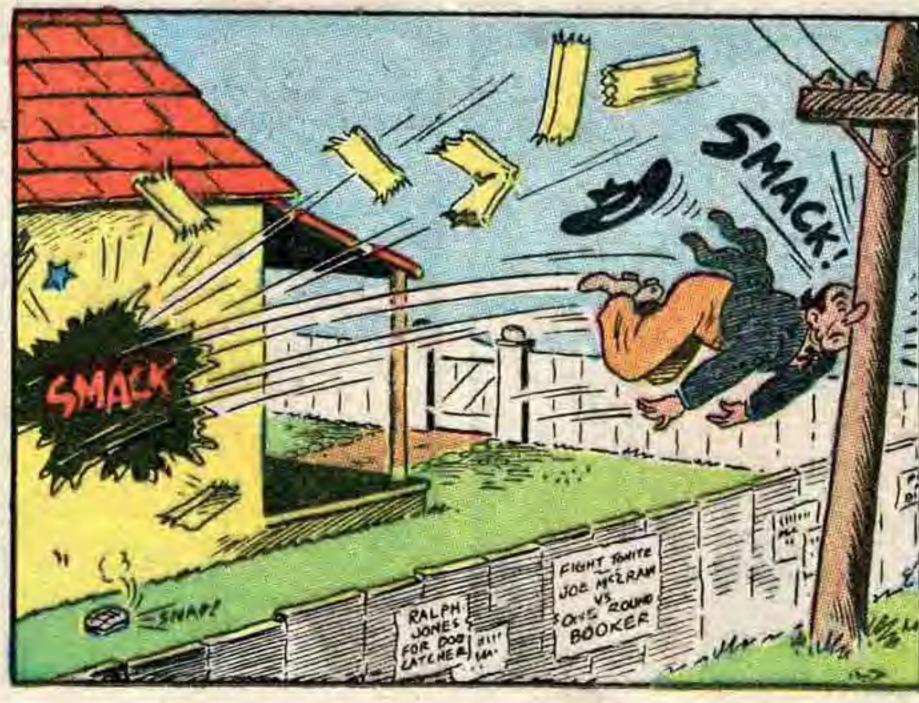








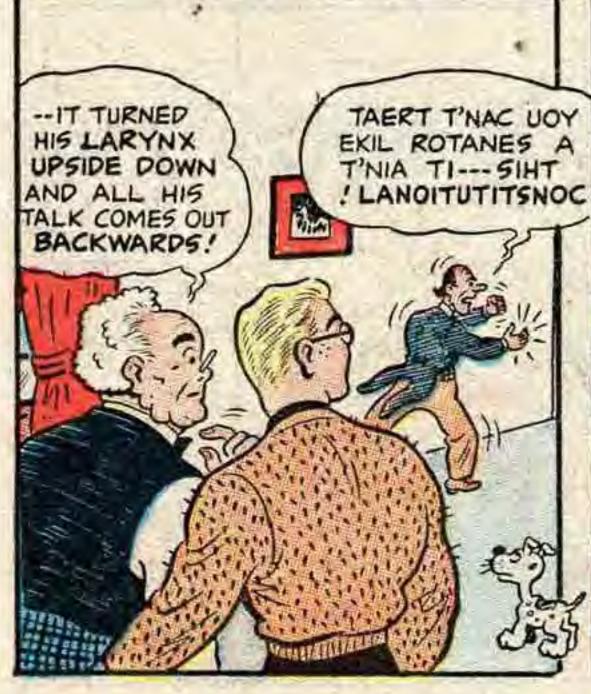


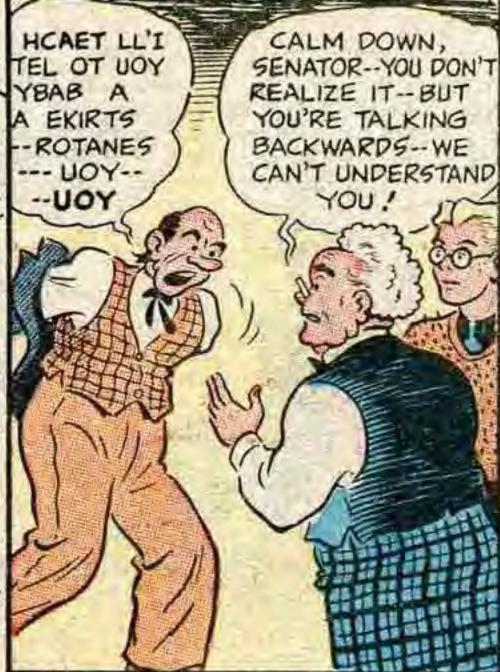


















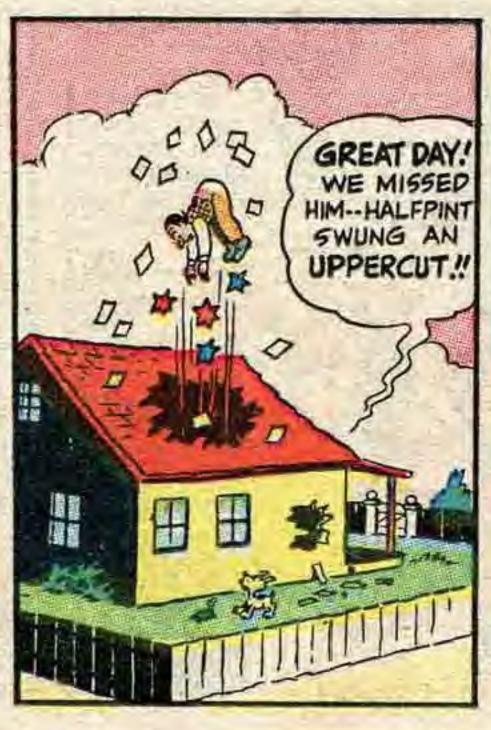








































NO WORD YET OUT OF JAPAN ABOUT TONY TRENT...LITTLE HOPE IS HELD FOR THE FAMOUS NEWS COMMENTATOR WHO LAST BROADCASTED FROM TOKYO THE MORNING OF THE TREACHBROUS ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR...



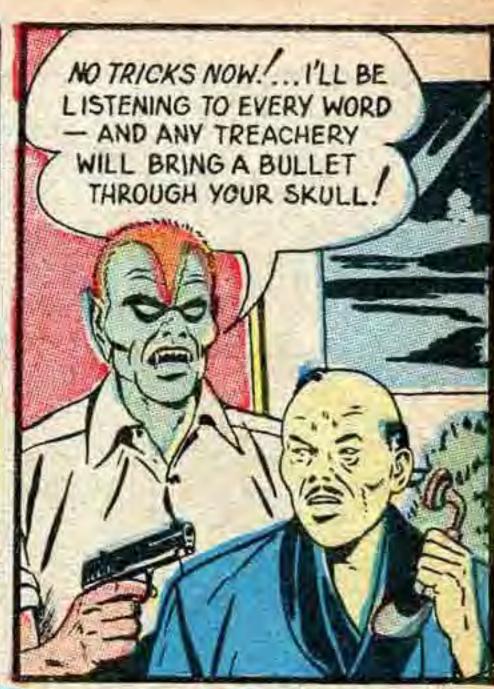


OF JAPAN IS ABOUT TO LEARN
THAT MRS. TRENT'S LITTLE BOY, TONY,







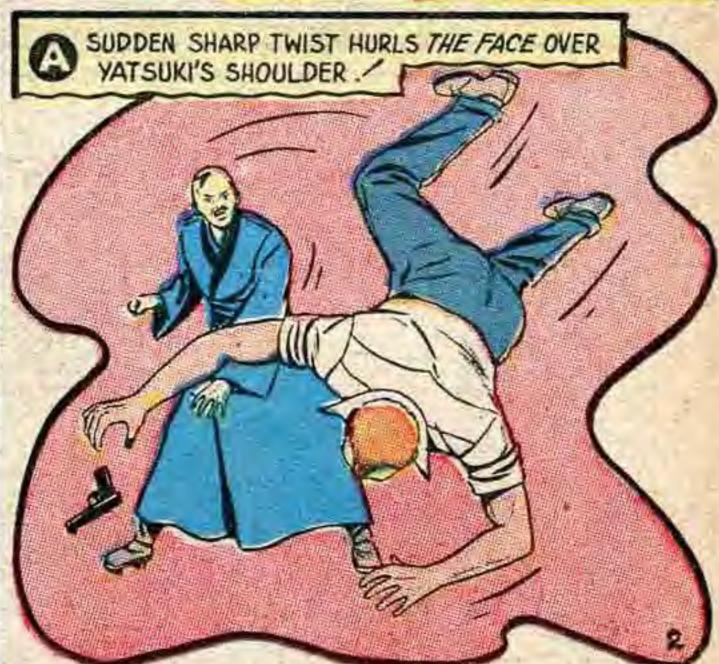














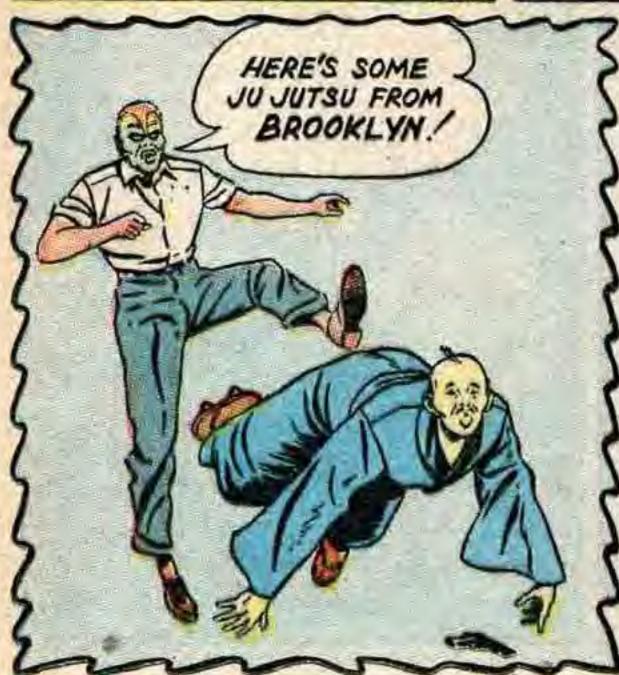


























































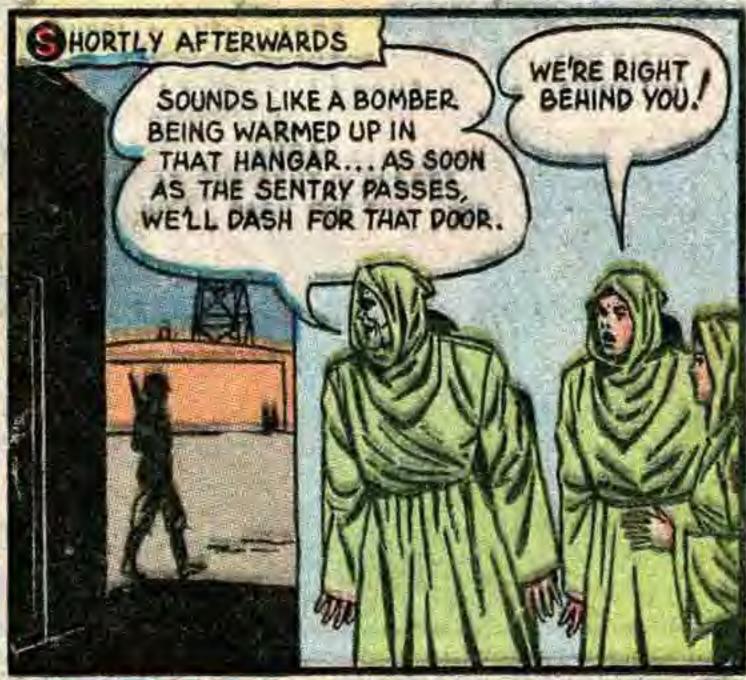










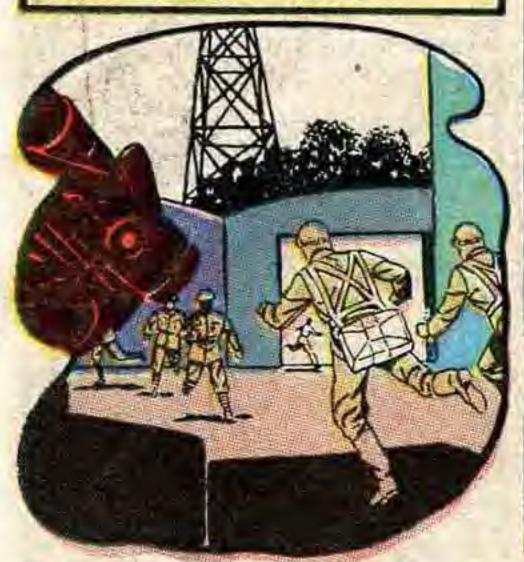








UN CREWS ... PURSUIT PILOTS. EMERGENCY SQUADS SPRINT FOR THEIR STATIONS ...



HE NEXT INSTANT, PILOTED BY THE FACE, THE JAP BOMBER ROARS OUT OF THE HANGAR ....



... AND ZOOMS AWAY LIKE A COMET



YOU'RE CIRCLING NO USE BEING ARE YOU CRAZY? BACK OVER THOSE GUNS GREEDY! WE THE FIELD! AND PURSUIT ARE TAKING PLANES -THEIR BOMBER-



EAVING A FLAMING WAKE OF DESTRUCTION AT THE TOKYO AIR BASE, THE BOMBER SOARS INTO THE PROTECTING NIGHT . . .



HE NEXT MORNING, TONY TRENT BROADCASTS FROM CHINA..

JACK CARNELL AND HIS WIFE ARRIVED HERE TODAY, AFTER AN - AMAZING ESCAPE FROM A JAPANESE MILITARY PRISON. THEY CREDIT THE ENTIRE EXPLOIT TO THE FACE - WHO DISAPPEARED AFTER THEIR PLANE LANDED ....



ISN'T THAT JUST LIKE TONY? -MAKING HEADLINE NEWS OF OTHERS. BUT NEGLECTING

TO TELL WHERE HE'S BEEN ALL TAIS WAILE!







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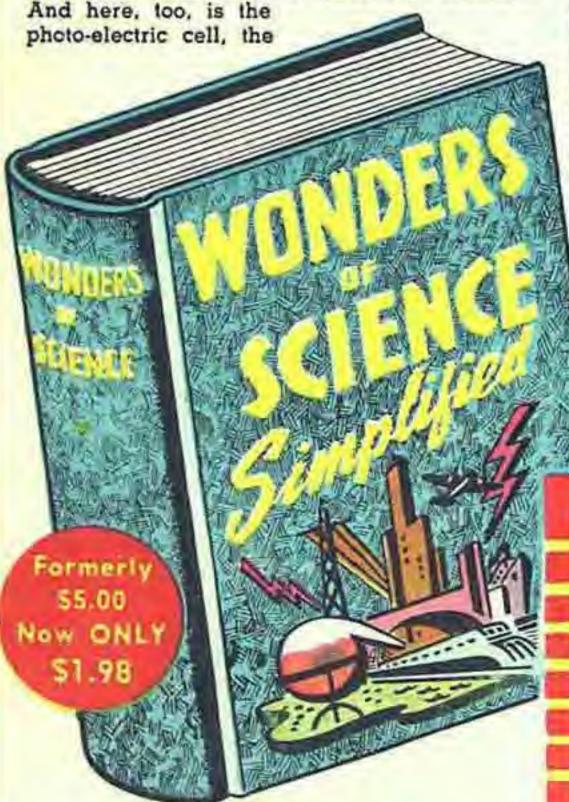
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